

Sinclair Broadcasting's forcing of their stations to air a plainly anti-Kerry film just days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge and is therefore obligated by law to serve the public interest. As this blatant affair proves, when large companies control the airwaves we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's vitally more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that actually matter to the electorate.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. C'mon, people, get it in gear. You're failing the people you are purported to serve.